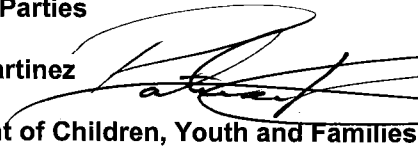


**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Patricia Martinez
Director
Department of Children, Youth and Families



DATE: December 29, 2010

SUBJECT: DCYF Rules Effective January 24, 2011

The following amended DCYF rules are effective January 24, 2011. These rules have been revised to comply with state and federal law and good practice in child welfare and juvenile justice.

These rules were advertised for promulgation in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (Title 42, Chapter 35 of the Rhode Island General Laws) on November 23, 2010. These rules are accessible through the Secretary of State's Rules and Regulations Search Interface (<http://www.rules.state.ri.us/rules/>) and, for a limited period of time, on the DCYF website (<http://www.dcyf.ri.gov>) or available in hard copy upon request (401-528-3641).

Adoption Subsidy - This rule, in compliance with federal law, defines applicable child criteria for adoption subsidy eligibility and provides that children must meet the definition of qualified alien to be eligible for adoption assistance, provided that children receiving adoption assistance pursuant to agreements signed before August 22, 1996 may continue to receive such assistance.

Comprehensive Assessment and Service Planning - This rule, in compliance with federal law, requires the Department to work with education agencies to ensure educational stability for foster children and to develop transition plans for youth leaving DCYF care. The rule also outlines changes in the intake, assessment and transition planning processes and specifies procedures required by the federal court order relating to residents of the RI Training School.

Educational Stability - This rule requires the Department to coordinate efforts with education agencies to ensure educational stability for children in foster care in accordance with federal law.

Standards for Investigating Child Abuse and Neglect (CA/N) Reports - This rule includes a process to ensure that DCYF arranges contact through the parent or guardian of a minor child who has knowledge of, but is not an alleged victim of, an abuse and/or neglect incident and allows that parent or guardian to be present during the interview.

If you have questions or concerns relating to this distribution, please contact Sarah St. Jacques, Principal Human Services Policy and Systems Specialist, Department of Children, Youth and Families, 101 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903 sarah.st.jacques@dcyf.ri.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.